

include many applications which will probably qualify for the issuance of a certificate under the amended regulations announced today.

Of course the impact of the provisions is not fully reflected in the figures I have given, for two reasons. First, there will be many cases where the taxpayer has not applied for a certificate of eligibility because his project clearly does not comply with the exceptions that can be granted under the regulations. Secondly, there are many cases where businessmen have decided to postpone capital projects and they would therefore have no cause to apply for a certificate.

A list of the cases for which certificates of eligibility have been issued has been published in the *Canada Gazette* of July 21, 1951, and September 22, 1951, covering all applications approved from April 11, 1951, up to and including September 15, 1951. The names of applicants to whom certificates have been issued since September 15 up to the present will be published shortly in the *Canada Gazette*.

Mr. J. M. Macdonnell (Greenwood): May I ask the minister a question? Notwithstanding the statement the minister has made showing a large percentage of permits that have been granted, does the minister think that the deterrent which was continued in the act of last April has been a very effective one and is effective still?

Mr. Howe: My own opinion is that it has been a very effective deterrent. The amount of new private construction has been materially reduced since this provision came into effect.

Mr. H. A. Hosking (Wellington South): Will the minister tell us whether he has given any consideration to having this four-year period start from the date of April 11, 1951, rather than running for a four-year period from the start of the contract? Many of the larger concerns are speculating whether this will be dropped if conditions change. I wonder whether the minister would be prepared to make a statement regarding the advisability of setting a closing date five years from April 11, 1951, rather than a four-year period from the starting date of the contract?

Mr. Howe: I would be glad to have the statement of my hon. friend examined as it is reported in *Hansard*, and, after consulting with my officials, I will make a statement.

Inquiries of the Ministry **INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS**

CHANGE IN PERSONNEL OF STANDING COMMITTEE

Mr. W. G. Weir (Portage-Neepawa) moved:

That the name of Mr. Bryce be substituted for that of Mr. MacInnis on the select standing committee on industrial relations.

Motion agreed to.

JUDGES ACT

INCREASE IN NUMBER OF COUNTY COURT JUDGES IN BRITISH COLUMBIA

Hon. Stuart S. Garson (Minister of Justice) moved that the house go into committee at the next sitting to consider the following resolution:

That it is expedient to present a measure to amend the Judges Act, 1946, to increase the number of county court judges in British Columbia from fourteen to fifteen.

He said: His Excellency the Governor General, having been made acquainted with the subject matter of this resolution, recommends it to the consideration of the house.

Motion agreed to.

OLD AGE SECURITY

PROOF OF AGE—QUESTION AS TO USE OF CENSUS RECORDS

On the orders of the day:

Mr. L. O. Breithaupt (Waterloo North): Mr. Speaker, before the orders of the day are called I should like to ask a question of the Minister of Trade and Commerce. My question has to do with proof of age for old age pension applicants, some of whom are having great difficulty in establishing proof of age.

Is the bureau of statistics in a position to assist old age pension applicants to establish their age for the purpose of the act, when other forms of proof of age, such as birth certificates, baptismal certificates and the like, are unavailable? If the bureau is in a position to assist in this connection, would the minister please state the procedure to be adopted by the applicant.

Right Hon. C. D. Howe (Minister of Trade and Commerce): I believe my parliamentary assistant has been looking into the matter, and I would ask him to give the answer.

Mr. G. J. McIlraith (Parliamentary Assistant to the Minister of Trade and Commerce): Mr. Speaker, in answer to the question of the hon. member for Waterloo North I would say that under section 15 of the Statistics Act no individual return and no part of an individual return made for the purpose of the Statistics Act can, without the previous consent in writing of the person making the return, be